[LEADERSHIP RESOLUTION]

Today, we, as leaders of our state and community's health, declare our commitment to a new and better future for health for the people of Washington. We deem it intolerable for our state's people, families, and communities to subsist in the shadow of failing systems of care, coverage and health. We recognize the challenges of health providers, businesses, governments and consumer groups to best serve these needs in our current constraints and realities.

We believe it to be a central obligation of our individual and collective leadership to establish and maintain a system of health that better promotes the well-being of all of the people of our great state. We acknowledge and accept our diverse interests, constituents and ideologies with respect to this great challenge. We recognize that at many times this diversity leads to significant and valid disagreement regarding the best means to achieve the end of a better health system. And that this disagreement is a core right and obligation of our civil society.

Yet, today, rather than amplify these disagreements, we come together to seek ways to unify ourselves in the pursuit of our common challenge. We believe that we can forge a common path toward a better health system by understanding and building upon the needs and values of the people of our state. It is our intent today to identify these guiding values and principles through honest dialogue and debate, asserting our own unique points of view but ultimately acknowledging mutual commitment to a set of overarching values and principles which bind us all.

Therefore, be it declared that on this day 28th day of October, 2003 that we establish the following set of values and principles upon which to build a better health system for the people of Washington:

It is our commitment today to not only to continue to ask the people of our state for their views on these values and principles as the proper guiding lights, but to work together as leaders to explore meaningful ways to build upon these to achieve a better health system. Not to forsake our responsibilities to our members, constituents or ideologies, but rather, to assume our mutual responsibilities for the common good.

Here, and on behalf of myself or my broader interests, I acknowledge these set of values and my commitment toward these: